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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application  
Gerhard SCHWENK et al.**

**Confirmation No. 8639**

**Serial Number: 10/575,079**

**Group Art Unit: 3722**

**Filed: April 7, 2006**

**Examiner: Unassigned**

**Attorney Docket No. SCHW3006/JEK**

**For: VALUE DOCUMENT**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §1.51(b), §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified is submitted herewith, except that (1) a copy of any U.S. patent application identified herein or any patent, publication or other information listed herein cited or submitted in a prior application relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120 and identified below, is not submitted herewith, and (2) a copy of any U.S. patent or published patent application identified herein is not submitted herewith, if this application was filed or entered the U.S. national stage on or after June 30, 2003 (or if applicable, this international application entered the U.S. national stage on or after June 30, 2003).

Serial Number: 10/575,079  
Attorney Docket: SCHW3006/JEK

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION NOT LISTED ON  
ACCOMPANYING FORM PTO-1449 SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

International Search Report mailed December 22, 2005 relating to International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2004/011128, of which this application is the U.S. national stage.

**CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY  
(NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS ONLY)**

The relevancy of each document identified on the appended PTO-1449 form, with the exception of the documents mentioned in the introductory portion of the specification of this application, is evident from the International Search Report mailed December 22, 2005 appended hereto.

With regard to the documents mentioned in the introductory portion of the specification, namely: WO 97/39428; EP 0 052 624; EP 0 053 124 and EP 1 253 241 the relevancy is evident from the discussion of the document in the specification.

**STATEMENT REGARDING TRANSLATIONS**

English language translations of the non-English language documents are not available to Applicants' attorney apart from English language abstracts appended to the documents or English language counterpart documents identified in the "Statement of Cumulative Information" paragraph below.

**STATEMENT OF CUMULATIVE INFORMATION**

U.S. 6,383,618 corresponds to DE 198 03 997.

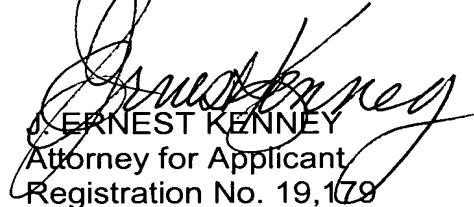
Serial Number: 10/575,079  
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**STATEMENT OF TIMELINESS**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits received by Applicant in the above-identified application.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Respectfully submitted,  
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

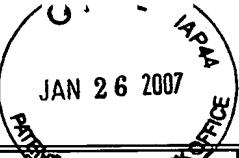


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Date: January 26, 2007

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Sheet 1 of 1

B/O Form PTO-1449  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	Atty. Docket Number  SCHW3006/JEK	Serial Number  10/575,079
	Applicant  Gerhard SCHWENK et al.	
	Filing Date  April 7, 2006	Group  3722

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Patentee/Applicant	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	6,155,605	12-05-2000	BRATCHLEY et al.			
	6,165,592	12-26-2000	BERGER et al.			
	6,383,618	05-07-2002	KAULE et al.			

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country/Agency	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	DE 198 03 997	08-05-1999	GERMANY				X
	DE 198 60 093	07-06-2000	GERMANY			X	
	EP 0 052 624	06-02-1982	EUROPE				X
	EP 0 053 124	06-09-1982	EUROPE				X
	EP 1 253 241	10-30-2002	EUROPE				X
	WO 97/39428	10-23-1997	WIPO			X	

**Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Place of Publication, Etc.)**


Examiner	Date Considered
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.